

Here's this week's news email for the Parish of Medstead and Four Marks.

Services this Sunday - 16th March 2025

8am at COGs - Communion Service
9.30am at COGS - All Age Service with sung worship, kids church, creche and youth (on 2nd and 4th Sundays)
11.00am - St Andrew's - Communion

New Treasurer

We're delighted to be able to announce that Chris Nunn was appointed our new treasurer at the last PCC meeting. Please be praying for him as he begins the process of getting familiar with our current position and providing financial leadership to the parish.

Lent Lunches at St Andrew's

During Lent, St Andrew's, Medstead runs a series of charity lunches in the church hall. Delicious homemade soups, cheese and bread are served and a speaker is invited to give a short talk about their charity. Entry is free but donations are welcomed and after the final lunch, all money raised is split equally between the host charities.

All lunches start at 12.30 and dates are as follows:

Thursday 20th March - Dementia Friendly
Thursday 3rd April - In aid of a Village Defibrillator



Please pray as we launch the Medstead Church Family Service on Sunday 23d March. If you know families associated with Medstead please pass on the details to them.

Alton Churches Lent 2025

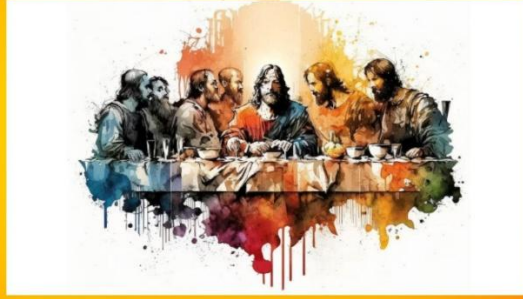


Table Talk - Conversations with Jesus

Wesley Room, The Maltings

7.15pm - refreshments

7.30-8.45pm

Worship, Prayer Teaching & Discussion

Thursday 20th March - Welcome to the Table

David Chattell - Parish of the Resurrection

Thursday 27th March - Dinner at the Table

Andrew Lawrence - Harvest Church

Thursday 3rd April - Turning over the Tables

Andrew Micklefield - Parish of the Resurrection

Thursday 10th April - Supper at the Table

Howard Wright - Church of the Good Shepherd

Thursday 17th April - Breaking Bread around the Table

Tim Suffield - Harvest Church

Preparation of a New Electoral Roll

Our APCM takes place on 29th April this year

Prior to our APCM will be in preparation of a New Roll.

Every person who wishes to have his or her name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present Roll or not, is requested to **apply for enrolment not later than 13th April**.

Please [click here](#) for further details and electronic copies of the application form

Paper forms will be available at COGS and St Andrew's.

Please speak to Frank Maloney, if you have any queries.



Nearly New Sale



Saturday 5th April
9.30–11.30am
The Good Shepherd church, GU345AA
 Free entrance for buyers
Sellers from 8.30am £5 per table, payable in advance


 Cafe open for tea and coffee and cake
 Raffle and play space for littleones
 





Help us to fundraise and support our weekly baby group and monthly toddler group and at the same time find new homes for your baby and toddler clothes, toys and equipment, from bump to age 8 years.

Contact Jane for more information or to book a sellers table
 07711407831
 families@pmfam.co.uk

We are looking for raffle donations to make up 2 hampers for the raffle, one for a family with children aged 1-3 years and one for a family with children age 3-5 years. Any new small toys, games, food donations would be appreciated.

**EASTER
 TEA & PRAISE**
SUNDAY 6TH APRIL, 3PM



This popular, traditional service will again be held on Sunday 6th April at 3pm and will be followed by refreshments. Please invite your neighbours and friends and bring them along. We look forward to seeing many of you.



 Showing God's love in everything we do



Our Alpha course has begun. Please be praying for those taking part.

If you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to assist, talk to Howard or contact Matt in the office

Solar Panels Update

All our solar panels at COGS are now in place and functioning.



Since they have been operational they have generated 398kWh

Can you join in?



Helping children of all ages to know God and grow in their relationship with Jesus



For some of our children, this means we need to give extra support. Will you be part of our team to help children of all ages and abilities know God and grow in their relationship with Jesus?

There are two ways you can help:

1. Consider joining our kids church team, especially if you have experience working with children who have additional needs.
2. Consider joining our crèche team to release Jane who can then provide additional needs support in kids church.

Given the nature of these positions, both DBS clearance and safeguarding training will be necessary.

For more information speak to Virginia or Jane



Would you like to help people in your local community to become debt free?

CAP Debt Centres are run in partnership with local churches to offer practical support, companionship and hope to people struggling with debt – as well as an opportunity to hear the gospel.

CAP DEBT COACHES URGENTLY NEEDED

For over ten years, Alton CAP Debt Centre – in partnership with Harvest Church – has been supporting clients to become free from debt. We are experiencing an increase in client numbers, and urgently need to expand our team of Debt Coaches from within our local church community.

Through home visits and ongoing support, Debt Coaches and Befrienders work alongside clients on their journey to becoming debt free.

Why be a CAP Debt Coach?

- Help to lift the burden of debt and see lives transformed
- Receive expert training and ongoing support
- Become part of a local and nationwide church-based movement



If you would like to find out more, please contact:

Steve Hannington, Alton Debt Centre Manager

Mobile: 07501 914563

Email: stevehannington@capuk.org



Tackling UK poverty through the Church
<https://capuk.org/>

Upcoming Special Services

Easter Tea & Praise
Sunday 6th April, 3pm at COGS

And in Holy Week...

A Service of Compline will take place at 7pm at St Andrew's on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th April

Evening of Prayer

Our monthly evening of Prayer will take place on **Tuesday 15th April, 7.30pm in the church hall at COGS.**

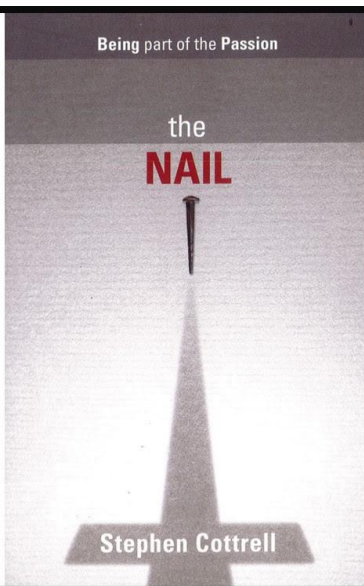
Maundy Thursday

Our Maundy Thursday service will take place at **St Andrew's at 7pm, Thursday 17th April**

Good Friday

There will be a Good Friday Meditation at **St Andrew's at 2pm, Friday 18th April**

And at COGS

<p>THE NAIL</p> <p>BEING PART OF THE PASSION</p> <p>Who killed Christ? Who was responsible?</p> <p>A dramatic and meditative presentation reflecting upon the events of the days leading up to and including Good Friday.</p> <p>Hear how key witnesses describe Christ's crucifixion from their points of view.</p> <p>Each character will consider the part they played in hammering the nails into Jesus.</p> <p>Will you accept the nail that crucified Christ?</p> <p>Will you recognise your role in the drama of the cross?</p> <p>Good Friday, 7pm, Church of the Good Shepherd</p> <p><small>Based on an idea by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York</small></p>	<p>Being part of the Passion</p> <p>the NAIL</p>  <p>Stephen Cottrell</p>
---	---

Alton Food Bank

We need the use of a van and muscles...could you help?

Alton Foodbank has its food warehouse on a different site to the Centre where clients come to collect food. We need help to transport the food in crates from the Warehouse to the Centre ready to give out to our clients.

We are looking for support from a company or individual with a van (or large vehicle) who may be able to help with transport.

Both sites are in Alton, and about a five minute drive from each other. Ideally this would take two hours once a week, and a volunteer would be on hand to assist.

If you think you could help or you know someone else who may be interested, please email Sian Mills, Project Manager, for more information. The email address is info@alton.foodbank.org.uk

Paris Marathon for Samaritans

Andy Short is running the Paris Marathon on Sunday 13th April 2025 to raise money for the Samaritans.

If you would like to sponsor him, you can do so here: https://www.justgiving.com/page/andrew-short-1732959300173?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

tearfund



Tearfund Lent Devotionals

A weekly email of reflections, stories, and prayers, helping us draw closer to God as we approach Easter.

<https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/lent-devotional>

Confirmation

We are hoping to hold a confirmation service at some point from late summer. If anyone is interested in getting confirmed, please speak to Howard, or contact the parish office.



AWAKE Suffolk Coastal Mission, Sept 6-14, 2025

Please consider being a team member on one of the teams on this mission.

You will be greatly encouraged and gain a deeper understanding of the gospel.

I guarantee that as soon as you have explained the Gospel of Christ on day 1, you will not want to stop.

With some training and praying beforehand, you will find it quite easy to talk faith and folk will be drawn closer to the Saviour.

You will be well fed, get tired and see God making connections that glorify Jesus.

Of a previous mission, someone said that he would have paid £500 not to have gone on it but afterwards that he would have paid £500 to have gone.

Further details from Robert Parker (parker305@btinternet.com)

or <https://www.throughfaithmissions.org/awake>



Waverley Singers

waverleysingers.com

Saturday 22 March 2025, 7:30pm
St Andrew's Garrison Church
Aldershot GU11 2BY

Mendelssohn **Elijah**

BARITONE - ANDREW RUPP
SOPRANO - MARIANA FERNANDES
MEZZO - JULIA MERINO
TENOR - HARUN TEKIN
CHAMELEON ARTS ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTOR - RICHARD PEARCE

TICKETS
In advance/on the door
£20/£22 Premium
£15/ £17 General
£5 Students
U16 free subject to conditions
Tickel price includes a complimentary drink



ticketsource.co.uk/waverleysingers

RETIRING COLLECTION IN AID OF STEP BY STEP





The Waverley Singers is Registered Charity no. 284123



Waynflete Singers

Verdi Requiem

Winchester Cathedral
Friday 4th April 2025
at 7.30 pm

The Waynflete Singers
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
and Bournemouth Symphony Chorus members

Soprano: Elin Pritchard
Alto: Rebecca Afonwy-Jones
Tenor: Andrés Presno
Bass: Ashley Riches

Conductor: Andrew Lumsden

Tickets: £15.00 - £50.00
From: www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/
or call 01962 857275
or via www.waynfletesingers.org.uk/concerts



Registered charity no: 285107

www.altonchoral.org.uk
Charity no.900258

Alton Choral Society Presents

Reflective Music for Good Friday

18th April, 6pm

Alton Methodist Church

Admission free

Retiring collection for



**St Andrew's Medstead Music Recital
Saturday 26th April at 6pm**



*Come along and enjoy a mix of well-loved
classical and light music, performed by
local artists*

*Tickets - £12.50 (concessions for children) include:
Finger Buffet and a Glass of Wine or Soft Drinks which will
be served in the church hall after the concert.*

*For tickets please contact:
Sharon Blackshaw on 01420 563937
E-mail: seblackshaw@gmail.com or
Wendy Busby on 01420 564168
E-mail: wendy.busby@hotmail.co.uk*

Raising money for:
Kathryn's Mercy Home
St Andrew's Fabric Fund



Our current series



Our new teaching series for spring at COGS has begun. Service cards are available in church or you can find it online - <https://www.parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk/resources/teaching-series/>

Sermons can be found on our sermon page or in our whole service videos on our youtube channel

Vicar: Howard Wright

Tel: 07746 066046 | Email: vicar@pmafam.co.uk

Family Worker: Jane Hughes

Tel: 07711 407831 | Email: families@pmafam.co.uk

Youth & Children's Minister: Virginia

Tel: 07724 141267 | Email: youthandchildren@pmafam.co.uk

Church Office: Matt Senior

Tel: 01420 560622 | Email: office@pmafam.co.uk